

03/37/

SECRET

PRECEDENCE

OLC #78-1745/6

FRP: 12, , , , ,

ADV C/LA 1550Z

STAFF HSCA

ACTION: C/LA-8 (016) INFO: FILE, VR, DDO-4, C/CI-4, C/EPG/EG-2,
C/IP/DMS, C/LSN/ID, C/PCS, ODPD-D, SA/DO/O, (24/W)

78 0718681

PAGE 001
TOR: 181546Z MAY 78

IN 0718681
MEXI 45116

S E C R E T 181450Z MAY 78 STAFF

CITE MEXICO CITY 45116 (CHAIDEZ ACTING)

TO: IMMEDIATE DIRECTOR.

* SUGGEST DISSEM TO: ICS, OLC

WNINTEL RYBAT

REF: DIRECTOR 224314

1. STATION DOES NOT FORESEE ANY PROBLEMS WITH HSCA INTERVIEWING SUBJECTS PARA 3 REF IN MEXICO AND ENDORSES PROPOSAL CONDUCT THE INTERVIEWS WITHIN THE AMERICAN EMBASSY PARTICULARLY IF SUBJECTS ARE TO BE PUT UNDER OATH.

2. VISIT OF HSCA MEMBERS TO MEXICO RE THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WAS DISCUSSED WITH THE CHARGE ON 17 MAY. HE IS AGREEABLE IN PRINCIPAL TO THE USE OF EMBASSY FACILITIES TO CONDUCT THE INTERVIEWS, BUT HE FIRST NEEDS AN OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR THIS SERVICE THROUGH STATE CHANNELS AND SOME OFFICIAL WORD ABOUT THE ARRIVAL OF THE HSCA/KENNEDY GROUP BEFORE HE CAN COMMIT THE USE OF EMBASSY PREMISES. THE CHARGE HAD ONLY ONE STIPULATION CONCERNING THE INTERVIEWS AND THAT WAS THAT THE PERSONS MUST COME TO THE EMBASSY ON THEIR OWN FREE WILL.

3. BUT ABOVE ALL, THE CHARGE SAYS HE NEEDS SOME LEAD TIME IN ORDER TO MAKE PROPER ARRANGEMENTS. THE EMBASSY ALREADY HAS MADE PLANS TO ACCOMMODATE ANOTHER HSCA GROUP INVESTIGATING THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. THIS GROUP IS ALSO SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE MEXICO CITY O/A 30 MAY. EVERYTHING HAS BEEN LAID ON FOR THAT VISIT BY THE EMBASSY, INCLUDING CO-ORDINATION WITH THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. AS OF COB 17 MAY, THE EMBASSY HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY NOTICE OF ARRIVAL OF THE HSCA/KENNEDY GROUP AS INDICATED PARA TWO REF.

4. RE PARA 5 REF: MR. CORNWELL SHOULD CONTACT MR. LAWRENCE E. STERNFIELD, THE COS.

SECRET

RETURN TO CIA
Background Use Only
Do Not Reproduce

21426

SECRET

STAFF

78 0718681

PAGE 002
TOR: 181546Z MAY 78

IN 0718681
MEXI 45116

5. STATION HAS REVIEWED QUESTIONS LISTED PARA 4 REF AND RECOMMENDS THAT HQS RESOLVE THE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS CONTAINED PARA 4 REF. THERE ARE HARDLY ANY RECORDS AT STATION COVERING THAT PERIOD AND THERE ARE NO PERSONNEL PRESENTLY ASSIGNED WHO HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OF STATION EVENTS DURING THAT PERIOD. THE FOLLOWING ANSWERS (KEYED TO THE QUESTIONS) REFLECT TOTALITY OF STATION KNOWLEDGE AT THIS TIME.

A. INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE OR KNOWN AT STATION.

B. NO RECORD AT STATION.

C. UNLESS TIME/DATE IS INDICATED ON PHOTOGRAPHS AND TELTAPS, IT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO LINK THEM TOGETHER. FOR EXAMPLE, EVEN TODAY, WITHOUT IMPROVED TECHNOLOGY, WE STILL DO NOT HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO INDICATE THE TIME OF THE INDIVIDUAL CALLS MADE DURING THE DAY.

D. ACCORDING TO PROJECT RECORDS, THERE WERE ²⁴ [TWO] TELTAP OPERATIONS ACTIVE AROUND THIS PERIOD: THE LIENVOY PROJECT RENEWAL [JOINT OPERATION] (HMMW-11457, 4 APR 63) SAYS THAT 30 LINES WERE COVERED. NO ADDITIONAL INFO OR IDENTITY OF TARGETS AVAILABLE AT STATION. [THE OTHER OPERATION WAS] LIFEAT [UNILATERAL] WHICH COVERED 23 LINES. A PROGRESS REPORT COVERING PERIOD NOV/DEC 63 (HMMA-22857, 6 FEB 64) PROVIDES IDENTIFICATION OF THE TARGETS. THIS DISPATCH LISTS TWO LINES COVERED IN CONNECTION WITH THE AMSTRUT OPERATION. WE CANNOT IDENTIFY AMSTRUT AND THUS DO NOT KNOW IF THIS IS COVERAGE OF ANY OFFICIAL CUBAN INSTALLATION. ²⁴ AS YET, WE CANNOT LOCATE ANY RECORD AT STATION OF [UNILATERAL] COVERAGE OF OFFICIAL CUBAN OR SOVIET INSTALLATIONS DURING NOV 63. PLS IDENTIFY THE THREE [UNILATERAL] TELTAP TARGETS MENTIONED PARA 4D REF.

E. INFORMATION ON THE CAMERA LOCATIONS OR PHOTOGRAPHS IS NOT AVAILABLE STATION.

F. WOULD PREFER THAT MEETINGS WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE MEXICAN OFFICIALS BE ARRANGED THROUGH THE EMBASSY.

6. STATION WILL OFFER EVERY ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION WITH THE HSCA INVESTIGATORS. HOWEVER, THE FACT THAT THE

SECRET

24/6

SECRET

STAFF

78 0718681

PAGE 003
TOR: 181546Z MAY 78

IN 0718681
MEXI 45116

HSCA WILL BE INVESTIGATING TELTAP OPERATIONS ²⁴ [WHICH ARE STILL] ²⁴
[ONGOING] CAUSES US CONSIDERABLE CONCERN. DURING PAST YEAR
WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED INCREASING SENSITIVITY [ON PART OF OUR] ²⁴
LIAISON COUNTERPARTS] AS RESULT OF REVELATIONS AND EXPOSES
CONCERNING CIA AND FBI ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO. ONE OF THE
MOST SENSITIVE OPERATIONS [FROM THE MEXICAN POINT OF VIEW] ²⁴
IS TELTAPS, [AS SUCH ACTIVITY IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL IN MEXICO.] ²⁴
[THE MEXICANS DRAW] A VERY DISTINCT LINE BETWEEN REVELATIONS
ABOUT CIA ACTIVITIES ORIGINATING FROM CRITICS AND ENEMIES
AND THOSE BEARING THE IMPRIMATUR OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.
[THE RELEASE OF THE FBI DOCUMENTS] [DREW A SHARP WARNING FROM] ²⁴
[THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR ON INTELLIGENCE MATTERS] (CF. MEXICO
CITY 43110).

7. ANY PUBLIC REVELATION BY THE HSCA OF [JOINT] ²⁴
[TELTAP ACTIVITY, JOINT OPERATIONS, OR LIAISON COOPERATION] ²⁴
IN INTELLIGENCE MATTERS, MAY WELL RESULT IN THE CURTAILMENT ²⁴
OF THESE OPERATIONS AND THE [LIAISON WHICH HAS BEEN ASSIDUOUSLY
DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS,] PLUS THE VERY REAL LOSS OF HIGH-LEVEL
REPORTING SOURCES.

8. NO FILE. E2, IMPDET.

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

246